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Editorial Comment

Were California Sanctions Really Effective?

OBJECTIONS were elicited by a report in the last issue of the mid-month which concerned sanctions in California ("How Sanctions Won Out in California Struggle," Oct. 15, p. 237). The criticism was based essentially on an article which appeared in the October issue of the *Phi Delta Kappan*.

The *Journal* mid-month article said California officials had admitted that the application of sanctions against the Little Lake school district was proving to be effective. The statement was based on information from the California Teachers Association, which said that Little Lake had reported difficulty in hiring good teachers and that even teachers from other states who had signed to teach were requesting release from their commitments.

The *Journal* will stand by its original article as factually based on reports available to it when the last mid-month went to press.

We were first taken to task by Alban Wasson Coen II, an NEA life member and administrative assistant for academic affairs at Central Michigan University. He drew our attention to the *Phi Delta Kappan* report that the Little Lake superintendent of schools said that as of Sept. 4 he was short only five certified personnel among a staff of 324, and that he expected to have all positions filled soon. The superintendent reported 1,000 applicants for 66 vacancies in the district—and implied that those hired were of high caliber.

The *Journal* contacted the CTA and received this reply from Bill Livingston, editor of CTA *Action:*

"When 'officials' change their tune between publication dates, we can both be right. Actually, it was Superintendent Stanley and a board member who testified that the sanctions had seriously damaged their recruitment efforts, and at the time of the hearing they said the district still was short 29 teachers.

"Later they explained that the *Time* magazine article had brought a flood of applications from all over the world and that the classrooms were well staffed with qualified personnel.

"They declared that the reason they did not file an amended complaint for a second hearing was their discovery that the sanctions didn't do any damage.

"Of course, the real reason for their dropping the case was the hopelessness of the effort. The first ruling made it clear that they would have a difficult if not impossible task in attempting to prove malice on the part of the CTA in imposing the sanctions.

"The district did get its teachers. We aren't in a position to say that the staff was recruited from those desperate for a job at the last moment for hiring. The final results are not clear—the board election is in April."

One of the charges conveyed to us is that the CTA released biased publicity and damaged the cause of sanctions. The *Journal* does not agree.

For one thing, there seems to be little doubt that any district would get a flood of applications following publicity to the point of national saturation. While one of the aims of sanctions is to publicize poor educational standards—such as those which existed in Little Lake—as part of the pressure to affect change for the better, the pin-pointed publicity of Little Lake can hardly be called typical.

In would be interesting to see what would happen if every instance of the use of sanctions occurred at a moment of such auspiciousness that it would be publicized as widely as the Little Lake case.

But that undoubtedly is impossible, for as localized sanctions continue and become more common, their news value will decrease accordingly in the editorial judgment of such widely circulated publications as *Time*.

The *Journal* feels that sanctions are effective—and as Livingston said, the Little Lake story is not ended. The *Journal* also believes that the National Education Association has impressive documentation of the effectiveness of sanctions. If enough readers are interested, we will carry an article concerning specific instances where sanctions have been applied—and have won beneficial results for education and teachers.

Higher Education Bill Fails; NEA Gives Account of Action

¶ A compromise bill that would have provided more than $2 billion in federal aid to colleges failed to pass the U.S. House of Representatives in late September. The move sent the measure back to the Senate-House conference committee and appeared to kill chances of passing any major education bill this year.

While there have been reports that moves by the National Education Association led to the death of the measure, here is an account of events relating to it:

✔ NEA Executive Secretary William G. Carr wrote to members of the House-Senate conference committee on Sept. 11, urging "the Congress, at this session, to assist in the construction of academic facilities in institutions of higher education in a way which would provide for *grants* to public institutions and *loans* to private institutions."

This NEA position, incidentally, had been made clear last June through letters sent to all members of Congress.

✔ It was then learned that on Sept. 17 the House-Senate conferees adopted a report authorizing appropriation of public funds for outright grants to private and church-related schools.

The NEA Legislative Commission was then called into an emergency session in Washington. The next day telegrams were sent by the NEA to all members of Congress, urging them "to vote to send the HR 8900 conference report back to conference with instructions that the conferees change Title I from direct grants to all colleges and universities to *grants* for public institutions and *loans* to private institutions."

✔ On Sept. 20 the House rejected the compromise bill by a vote of 214-186.

The motion which recommitted the measure to the conferees called on them to insist on deleting provisions for a student scholarship and loan program.

During the floor debate on the subject, opponents of the conference report had maintained that the provisions to allow colleges to allocate 20 per cent of the loan funds as "nonrepayable" grants to "exceptionally needy" students amounted to a camouflaged $120-million federal scholarship program—and, it should be noted, the House has never seen fit to

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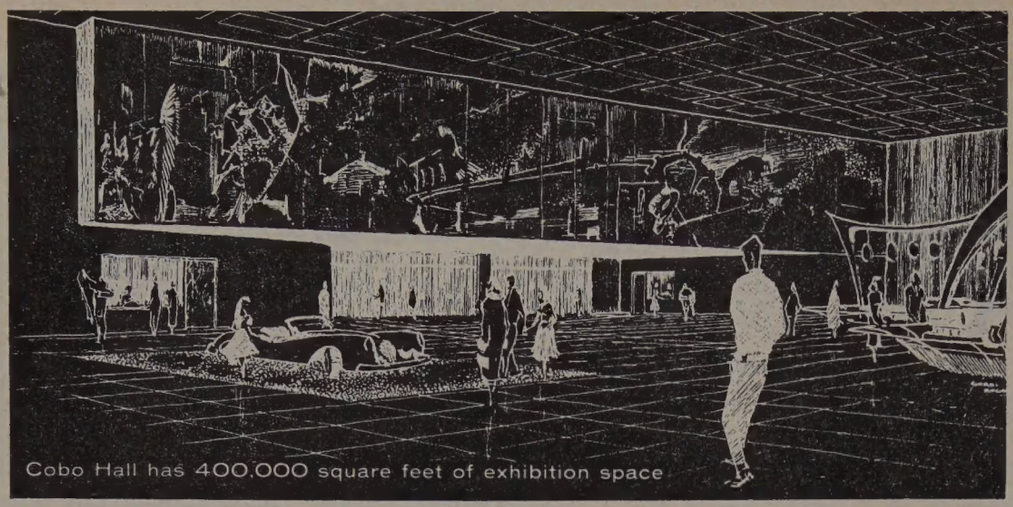

Cobo Hall has 400,000 square feet of exhibition space

Plans Laid for NEA Convention in Detroit

Plans already are well underway for the 1963 National Education Association meeting, to be held in Detroit at Cobo Hall, June 30-July 5. Chairman of local committees involved with arrangements for the Detroit convention met in mid-October in Detroit to iron out schedule changes. The local arrangements coordinator is Mabel Giszczak, assistant principal of the Sherrill elementary school in Detroit and a member of the MEA Board of Directors.

Coming to Detroit to discuss arrangements were Hazel A Blanchard, NEA president; William G. Carr, executive director of the NEA; Lyle W. Ashby, deputy executive secretary; Richard E. Carpenter, assistant executive secretary for business management and Lois Rogers, NEA convention coordinator.

Miss Rogers said that the convention in Detroit will open with the traditional vesper service, but that some changes had been made in other activity dates, such as Friendship Night, when receptions are held for the NEA president and candidates for office. This has been changed to a Tuesday night and Classroom Teachers Night has been scheduled for Thursday.

The 1963 convention theme will be "A Great Profession: Ours by Choice."

All general and business sessions will be in the Convention Arena. Registration and exhibits will be in Cobo Hall where there also are numerous meeting rooms for small groups. Both buildings are together along the Detroit River, making for great convenience in arrangements.

During the convention, Detroit and Windsor will be holding their annual Freedom Festival, an internationally unique festivity which honors Canada's freedom day of July 1 and that of the United States on July 4.

MEA Membership Increases, Seven More Chapters Join

Seven new chapters have joined the MEA during the past two months and membership records report an increase of more than 5,000 members over a year ago.

With the addition of the seven chapters, the MEA chapter count stood at 419.

As of Oct. 31, paid memberships in the association had reached 43,907. One year earlier the figure was 38,892. Indications are, therefore, that total membership for the year may reach 65,000 by the time all applications are in.

In Region 7 of the MEA, which is Oakland County, the Brandon Education Association organized into an MEA chap-

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Michigan Education Journal

NOVEMBER MID-MONTH

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Adult Educators Discuss Problems of an Urban Age At Fall Meeting in Detroit

The 12th annual national conference of the Adult Education Association of the U.S.A. ended as it began: with the realization that one of the greatest problems facing society is the education of adults in an urban age.

Dr. John A. Hannah, Michigan State University President, was the final conference speaker this fall, but perhaps could have been the keynoter. After three discussion-packed days, the more than 500 participants heard Dr. Hannah challenge them anew with a host of current and future problems facing adult education.

He first posed the problem of secondary school dropouts, suggesting that adult educators concentrate on attracting these "lost students" back into education. He called civil rights another problem, one of concern for the whole nation.

"Most Americans," he said, "will voluntarily support vast programs of economic and technical assistance overseas for people long denied many of their rights and opportunities, but fail to recognize the same kind of protests of abused minority groups in our own country."

Dr. Hannah pointed out the current shift in emphasis to fundamentals, rather than on practical application. This has implications for adult education, he said.

He also asked the educators to look ahead and consider the implications of shorter work weeks and an increasing number of senior citizens.

"To the extent they express their demands in terms of education, we must be prepared to meet them to the fullest extent possible," he said.

During the three-day conference, the adult educators from the United States and Canada put Detroit under their educational microscopes – seeking out answers to some of the bedeviling problems in this sprawling urban laboratory. They tread a variety of problem paths—some with heavy feet, others more gingerly. Questions popped like corn on a hot griddle; answers came with less velocity, and were fewer in number.

A top-flight symposium of Detroiters—William H. McGaughey, vice president of American Motors; Monsignor Clement L. Kern, pastor of the Most Holy Trinity Church, and Walter P. Reuther, president of the UAW—addressed themselves to the problems inherent with increasing urbanization.

Delving into some of the possible effects on the individual was another panel, composed of Common Councilman Mel Ravitz; Wilma T. Donahue of the University of Michigan; Detroit police commissioner George Edwards; Carl Mar-

burger of the Detroit Public Schools, and James M. Tagg, editor and publisher of the Alma *Record* and president of the Michigan Press Association.

Alan M. Thomas, director of the Canadian Association for Adult Education; Cyril O. Houle of the University of Chicago; Jack London of the University of California, and Robert E. Sharer of Michigan State University—who is president of AEA-USA—were among the speakers.

The conference also featured 15 discussion sessions examining urbanization problems on a community level, 21 AEA-USA section meetings on various aspects of education, exhibits of educational equipment and facilities and conducted lecture-tours.

Federal Aid Fails

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vote in favor of student grants.

Interestingly, the question of grants to non-public institutions — including church-related schools — was regarded by many House members as the major factor that decided the measure's fate, but that issue was largely ignored by opposition speakers during debate.

In its telegrams, the NEA had virtually been forced—because of action by its Representative Assembly—to ask that the conference report be sent back to conference, asking for direct grants to public institutions and loans for private institutions. As James L. McCaskill, executive secretary of the NEA Legislative Commission put it:

"The position on higher education taken by the Representative Assembly in Denver this year was a mandate for NEA to oppose this conference report. In addition to providing grants for private and church-related schools, the conference report also authorized excessive federal control in the administration of the program.

"In my opinion, approval of the report would have ended the possibility of federal support for public schools for many years and would have diverted public funds to private education."

Dr. McCaskill commented further that: "The NEA believes that the federal government, along with state and local governments, must support the expansion and adjustments in publicly controlled and tax-supported institutions of higher education. We have worked vigorously for this principle in the past and will continue to do so in the future."

New Association Name Adopted

¶ Those associations involved with business education have been unified and accepted by the NEA under a new name: National Business Education Association. The NEA department formerly was called the United Business Education Association.

GATHERED AROUND out-going Gov. John B. Swainson when he signed the Michigan proclamation for American Education Week, Nov. 11-17, were, from the left: Neil Bertram, public relations chairman for the American Legion of Michigan; Dr. E. Dale Kennedy, executive secretary for the MEA; Otto Yntema, president of the Michigan Congress of Parents and Teachers, and Dr. Jack R. Rombouts, deputy superintendent of the Department of Public Instruction.

Math Professors Launch Self-Help Plan for Industry

Michigan's mathematics professors have launched a plan to give the state's industries the help they need most. This is not tax reduction nor more profits, but a way to stimulate production of today's most precious and scarcest industrial raw material: mathematical talent.

The college professors are doing so by asking 250 of the state's largest concerns to provide scholarship aid for the winners of a Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition.

The Michigan Section of the Mathematical Association of America for the last five years has sponsored this competition in which 10,000 high school students now participate.

"The incentive it provides," said Dr. James H. McKay of Michigan State University, Oakland, chairman of the Michigan Section of MAA, "has already done a great deal to stimulate interest in mathematics, the central science of our age.

"It is not generally realized that mathematics is not static, that the great advances in mathematical knowledge of the last few decades have made possible many of the advances in physics, space terminology and other sciences.

"But mathematicians are just about the scarcest commodity in our whole economy or in our intellectual society. Fewer than 300 doctor's degrees in mathematics are awarded each year. The country's 2,000 colleges already need at least ten times this tiny output for teaching positions, but must share it with industry which also is left with many unfilled positions.

Dr. Robert J. Wisner, who heads the MAA's teaching improvement program, said that the need for mathematics is so great that the average starting salary for a Ph.D. in the subject is $10,000. In fact, he said that this is a common starting salary even for those with master's.

"Thus the real beneficiaries of this scholarship aid," Dr. McKay declared, "will not be the students, but the industries themselves, and the economy.

"Much is said of the industrial climate in Michigan and of the taxes and other economic factors that influence it. But nothing is more important to creating a good climate than the supply of educated brains for research and advancement. The industries of Michigan represent the more sophisticated and complex elements in our economy and as such have especially critical needs for this most important raw material and indispensable asset.

"In the face of such a tremendous demand for mathematical talent, only 10,000 of the 650,000 students in two-thirds of the state's 750 high schools are taking part in this competition. But the sad figure is that only 10 of the 10,000 now receive even token recognition, although at least 300 are worthy.

"Scholarship help from industry will

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be a tremendous incentive for more high school students to be more serious about their high school mathematics. It is difficult to convince many a student in a small community of his own talent, or to persuade him that he has it. But proving himself in competition with 10,000 others can convince him, and can thus uncover much talent."

The competition is in two parts. The first is a series of 40 multiple-choice questions. The second part consists of five questions dealing with more sophisticated problems than the contestants would encouter in high school. They are questions which require only the material normally studied in high school but that test the student's mathematical aptitude and imagination.

The prize money contributed by industries will not be mailed to the winners, but rather to the colleges which they choose to attend, to be applied toward expenses. Brochures announcing the competition will soon be sent to all the high schools in the state. The competition will be held on December 13.

Speaking at an open session of the NEA Legislative Commission recently, Missouri Congressman Richard Bolling laid the blame for the defeat of federal aid to education primarily on the nation's business organizations.

He named the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce as contributors to the defeat.

He suggested that the solution was for teachers to support, by active political work, liberal congressmen of both parties who would vote for the legislation.

Membership Increases

(*Continued from page* 282)

ter. Leo Kisell of Ortonville was elected president of the chapter.

Ithaca Education Association, Gratiot County, organized and elected John Clark as president of its MEA chapter.

Also affiliating with the MEA is the Bergland Community Chapter, Ontonagon County. The members elected Charles Waters, Bergland High School faculty, as president.

Eugene Maki, Champion, was elected the leading officer for Perkins Chapter in Delta County.

The Saranac Education Association in Ionia County selected Norman Richter, Ionia, for the presidency.

Roman Gill, Rock, is president of the new Rock Chapter in Region 17, Delta County District. Also in Region 17, Marquette-Alger District, the Chocolay Township Education Association elected as president Mrs. F. Kathryn Rogers of Marquette.

By forming a recognized chapter of the MEA, members are given a greater opportunity to participate in promotional growth and the MEA program of action.

Three MEA Appointments Made

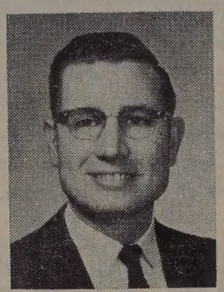
In three new appointments a teacher, high school principal and superintendent have joined the staff of the Michigan Education Association.

They are George ("Ted") Cavin, Lee B. Lonsberry and Dwight H. Rich.

Lonsberry is former high school principal in Reading and Comstock, and actually has accepted two positions with the MEA.

In one capacity he will be field service representative in Region 9, which includes Montcalm, Ionia, Kent, Ottawa and Allegan counties. His other work will be as executive secretary for the Grand Rapids Education Association.

Lonsberry has a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan and a master's in school administration from the University of Michigan. He has had 10 years' experience in education, including three years at Menominee and five at Reading and Comstock.



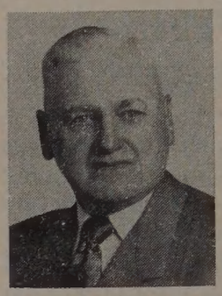
Lee Lonsberry

He has been active in the Michigan College Agreement Association and has served on the steering committee for the Southwestern Region. He is married and has four children.

Dr. Rich joins the MEA after a distinguished career in education. He retired this past July as superintendent in Lansing after 17 years in the position. He began his career as a teacher of mathematics and as a coach at the Onarga, Ill., Military Academy in 1920.

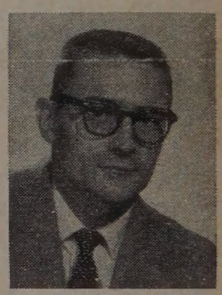
He has taught at Kalamazoo, Calumet and in Lansing where he joined the administrative staff in 1927 as assistant principal at Lansing's Central High. His last position before becoming Lansing superintendent was as principal at Easter High in that city.

Dr. Rich is former superintendent of the Lansing public schools and has accepted, in a part-time capacity, the executive secretaryship of the Michigan Education Home Association (MEHA). Part of his new duties are to work with the MEHA Board of Governors toward the 1965 completion date for MEHA Village, an educators' retirement community to be located near Ann Arbor.



Dr. Rich

Cavin is a former teacher at Bloomfield Hills and joins the Association as a field representative who will work in the Detroit area to improve education and professional organization. He has degrees from Wayne State and has taken doctoral work at Michigan State.



"Ted" Cavin

In addition to six years as a classroom teacher, Cavin spent three years as a junior high school principal. He is married and the father of four children.

Action on Platform

The resolutions and the platform passed each year by the MEA are designed to help keep the organization progressive and active in areas important to education.

To aid the membership in keeping abreast of what is being done to put the resolutions into effect, the Journal *will periodically reprint selected resolutions and platform items and list the action taken.*

Platform Item III—We accept for ourselves and live by our code of professional ethics.

Action on platform item—Adoption of the NEA Code as our official code of ethics while seeking its improvement, as by current efforts at revision; development of handbooks and workshops to interpret and enforce the code, and leadership on the national level to seek and promulgate a highly respected professional code of ethics.